

From: TJ Bliss

Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:03 AM

To: TJ Bliss

Cc: Luci B Willits; Greg Alexander; Shasta Oswald; Melissa R. McGrath; Angela Hemingway

Subject: AMO Target Revision in ESEA Flexibility Waiver

Dear Superintendents and Charter School Administrators,

The Idaho State Department of Education has been working with the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) on a clarification of baseline data in regards to the Annual Measureable Objective (AMO) determinations. The original AMO calculations included in our approved ESEA Waiver were inadvertently based on the 2011-2012 school year data and carried forward for six years to reduce the difference to 100% by half (i.e. a 40% baseline would be 70% in six years or 5% per year). Recently, the USDE allowed the SDE to change the baseline year to 2010-2011, where it should have been originally. This revision effectively changed the AMO targets for the 2012-2013 school year. The revised AMO targets have been updated on the 2012-2013 Star Rating reports for each school and district. About 60 schools were affected by the revised targets, with the large majority meeting the new targets. You may view school AMOs on the following Report Card website:

<https://apps.sde.idaho.gov/Accountability/ReportCard>

Each identified Four-Star or Five-Star School missing the revised AMO targets will be considered to be in "AMO Continuous Improvement." Such status requires these schools to submit SMART goals to their districts addressing the deficiencies in their AMOs. Districts will then be responsible for the March submission of the Assurance page found in the 2013-2014 School Improvement and Planning Handbook. This assurance page will confirm that each applicable school has submitted a sufficient SMART goal addressing each deficient AMO. Each school will have access to the WISE tool and may use the tool to submit SMART goal(s) to the district. The SDE will not be approving the SMART Goal(s) but may need to provide evidence to USDE that the goal(s) have been submitted districts.

All schools that were not affected by the waiver revision and have already submitted SMART goals **will not** need to rewrite their goals to address the new AMO targets. School Improvement Plan reviewers are going to take into consideration the previous AMO goals that were originally addressed in SMART goals and improvement planning in these situations.

The Division of Statewide System of Support will be reaching out to schools and districts affected by the AMO target revisions. Please contact Greg Alexander (galexander@sde.idaho.gov) or Shasta Oswald (soswald@sde.idaho.gov) if you have any questions about the AMO changes or School Improvement Plan submission.

Thank you,

TJ

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